Railway Advertisements are not released through DAVP. Railway advertisements are released directly. The details of the total amount spent by the Railways for the periods 1992-93 and 1993-94 languagewise and zonewise are given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 171, Annexure 49]

Independent Suburbans Railway Transport Department

3013. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have agreed in principle to have an independent Suburbans Railways Transport Department; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Merging Kolhapur in Central Railway

3014. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a constant demand for annexing Kolhapur to Central Railway;

(b) whether it is also a fact that though the starting point for Mumbai trains is Kolhapur, still very few seats and berths are made available for Kolhapur commuters; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) The Railways have, from time to time, received suggestions regarding the transfer of Pune-Kolhapur section from South-Central Railway to Central Railway.

(b) and (c) The following quotas are available in trains originating from Kolhapur for Bombay:—

Train No.	Class					
	AC 2T	FC	AC Chair	SL Class	Second Seat	%
7304 Sahyadri	—	5	—	64	—	
Express	—	—	19	—	8	
7308 Koyna	13	10	—	247	—	
Express						
7312 Mahalaxmi						
Express						

These quotas are reviewed periodically and adjustments made wherever found feasible and justified. As regards transfer of Pune-Kolhapur section from South Central to Central Railway, the same is under study and examination.

Child begging on Railway Stations

3015. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govenment have made any assessment of the growing child begging problem on the various sections of the Railways on the Railway Stations and in the running trains;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any special squad has been deployed by Government to check child begging on the stations and in the running trains;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof stating the results achieved during the last two years; and

(e) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative whether Government propose to set up a special squad for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) No separate statistics regarding children found begging on station premises and in trains are maintained.

(c) to (e) begging on station premises and in trains is a punishable offence under the Railways Act. It is basically a socio-economic problem. To eradicate menace of begging on stations and in trains, regular and surprise checks/drives are conducted jointly by the Railway Officials, Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police personnel. The beggars aprehended are dealt with in accordance with the law of the land. During last two years 1,15,663 checks were conducted and 6876 beggars were prosecuted.

Withdrawal of complimentary passes

3016. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that complimentary Railway passes issued to freedom fighters and Ex-MPs are withdrawn temporarily;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that complaint of bogus passes were reaching to Government since long, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have inquired into this fraud;

(e) if so, who are found responsible,

(f) whether Railway personnel are also inplicated in this fraud; and

(g) how long the decision to withhold the travel facility given to complimentary pass holders of above categories would continue?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No complaint has been received about issue of bogus passes to Freedom Fighters and former Members of Parliament.

(d) to (g) Do not arise.

Implementation of Miabhoy Tribunal Recommendation

3017. SHRI JIBON ROY:
SHR M.A. BABY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after 24 years of Miabhoy Tribunal recommendation and 21 years of agreement between the AILRSA and Government signed by the then Minister of Labour, in 1973 regarding 10 hours duty from signing on to signing off, for running staff have not been implemented;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the staff are being forced to perform unlimited hours of work;

(c) if so, whether such a state of affairs is not prone to accidents;

(d) if not, what is the actual status;

(e) whether the 10 hours duty schedule has been incorporated in HDER; and

(f) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (d) Following the judgement of Central Administrative Tribunal Ernakulam, delivered on 10.1.92, instructions have already been issued in April, 1992 advising Zonal Railways that "duty at a stretch"